

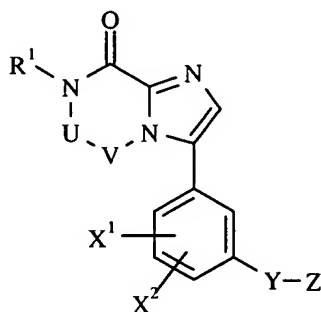
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-10 without prejudice and insert therefore new Claims 11-20. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (canceled)

11. (new) A compound of formula I, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(I)

wherein:

-U-V- represents -CH=CH-, or -CH₂-CH₂-, -N=CH- or -CH=N-;

X¹ represents hydrogen, halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, trifluoromethyl or C₁₋₆ alkoxy;

X² represents hydrogen or halogen;

Y represents a chemical bond, an oxygen atom, or a -NH- or -OCH₂- linkage;

Z represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl group;

R¹ represents hydrocarbon, a heterocyclic group, trifluoromethyl, -SO₂R^a, -SO₂NR^aR^b, -COR^a, -CO₂R^a or -CONR^aR^b; and

R^a and R^b independently represent hydrogen, hydrocarbon or a heterocyclic group.

12. (new) The compound of Claim 11 wherein -U-V- represents -CH=CH- and Y represents a chemical bond, an oxygen atom, or an -NH- linkage.

13. (new) The compound of Claim 11 wherein Y is a chemical bond.

14. (new) The compound of Claim 11 wherein R¹ is methyl, ethyl, fluoroethyl, difluoroethyl, trifluoroethyl, isopropyl, methyl-triazolylmethyl or pyridinylmethyl.

15. (new) The compound of Claim 11 wherein X¹ is fluorine and X² is hydrogen.

16. (new) The compound of Claim 11 wherein Z is a substituted phenyl or triazolyl group.

17. (new) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:
2'-fluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-2'-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
2'-fluoro-5'-[7-(2-fluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5'-[7-(2,2-difluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]-2'-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(2,2-difluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(1-methylethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

3-chloro-2'-fluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-4-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(2-fluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4'-fluoro-3'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

5'-fluoro-3'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

2,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-4-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(2-methyl-2H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

3-[4-fluoro-3-(1-methyl-1H-[1,2,3]triazol-4-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-7-methyl-7H-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-8-one;

3-[4-fluoro-3-(2-methyl-2H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-7-methyl-7H-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-8-one;

7-ethyl-3-[4-fluoro-3-(2-methyl-2H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-7H-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-8-one;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-[8-oxo-7-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

5,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

6,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-[8-oxo-7-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-d][1,2,4]triazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3'-(1-methyl-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropurin-9-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of Claim 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

19. (new) A method for the treatment of anxiety, convulsions or a cognitive disorder which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of the compound of Claim 11, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. (new) A method for the prevention of anxiety, convulsions or a cognitive disorder which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of the compound of Claim 11, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.